

Examiners Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephonic interview with Joseph, P. Fox registration no. 41,760 on March 31, 2008. Specification is being amended to clarify claim language and over come any potential 101 issues.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 29, paragraph [0094], after "recordable medium", please delete
[or transmission/reception using any of a variety of suitable communication networks via
a communication interface] and add .

Reasons for Allowance

3. Examiner has considered Applicant's amendments and arguments as indicated on pages 9 – 10, of Applicants response dated (03/103/2008), and after further review based on Applicant's current amendments, Examiner is hereby placing claims 1 – 4, 7 – 8 in condition for allowance.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest at least:

“...wherein when a number of values assigned to the variables is larger than a number of items in the record, if a value assigned to the variables has been registered into the record, a registration number of a value being registered into the record is incremented by one and if the value assigned to the variables has not been registered into the record, a value having a least registration number in the record is cleared and said value assigned to the variables is newly registered into the record with registration number one...”, in such a manner as recited in claims 1, 3 and 7 and as best illustrated by FIG. 4.

Therefore, all remaining claims 1 – 4, and 7 – 8 are in condition for allowance.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuck Kendall whose telephone number is 571-272-3698. The examiner can normally be reached between Monday-Thursday at 11:30 – 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Chuck O Kendall/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2192